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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN[®]

THE BATTLE TO BECOME THE NEW KINGPIN OF CRIME BEGINS!

GANG WAR PART ONE

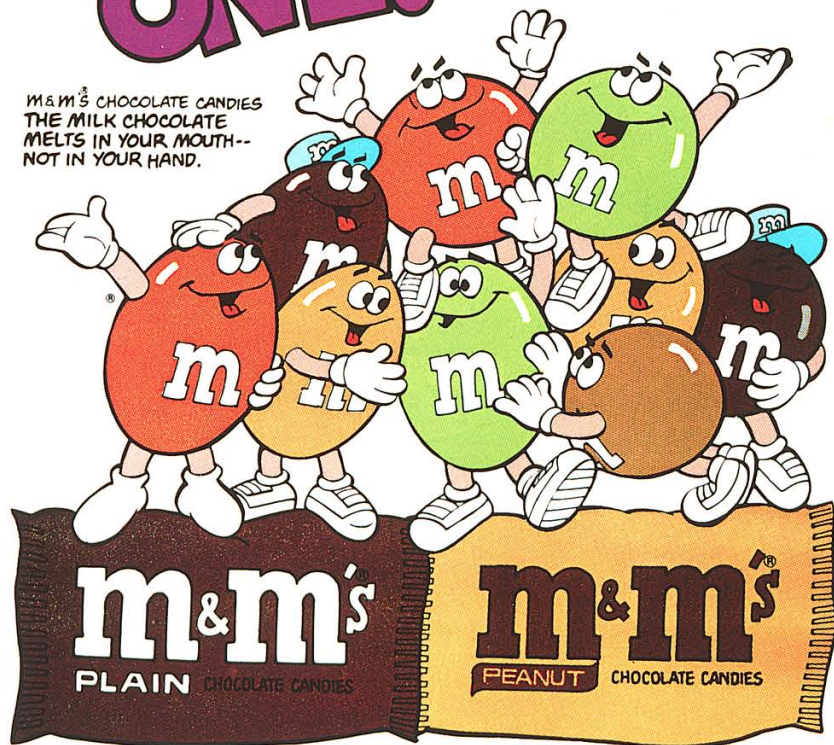


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Stan Lee
PRESENTS:



"... AND WHO SHALL
STAND
AGAINST THEM...?"

NEW YORK CITY AT NIGHT IS THE STUFF
GREAT ROMANTIC LEGENDS ARE MADE OF.
THE SEDUCTIVE NEON MAGIC THAT ENVELOPES
THIS TOWN'S TWILIGHT HOURS DRAWS
PEOPLE FROM EVERY CORNER OF THE
GLOBE, MATRICULATING THEM ALL INTO
THE DAZZLING NON-STOP CELEBRATION.

SO, YOU ASK, WHY WOULD
ANYBODY WANT TO SPEND A
SPLENDID FALL EVENING
CROUCHED HIGH IN THE
SHADOWS OF A MUSTY,
DOWNTOWN WAREHOUSE?

BEATS THE HECK OUT
OF US, FOLKS!

WE'LL GIVE YOU
A HINT, THOUGH.

THESE MEN, UN-
LOADING STOLEN
ELECTRONICS
EQUIPMENT
ARE THE BAD
GUYS.

AND THIS GUY GETTING
HIS NIFTY BLACK OUTFIT
COVERED WITH SOOT AND
ASH...

... HAS SPENT
THE LAST FOUR
HOURS WAITING
FOR THEM TO
ARRIVE.

ANOTHER
EXPLOSIVE SPIDEY-
BLOCKBUSTER
(AND GREAT ENTERTAIN-
MENT VALUE) PREPARED BY:
TOM DEFALEO & FRENZ
PLOT
STORYTELLING
ABLY ASSISTED BY:
JIM CHISLEY SCRIPT
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AND NOT
TO MENTION...

JOSEF
RUBINSTEIN
INKS

RICK
PARKER
LETTERING

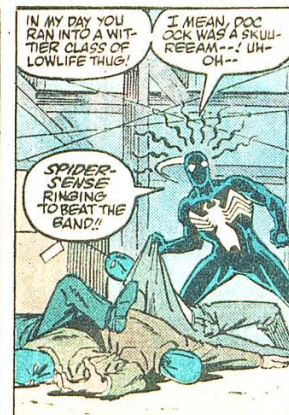
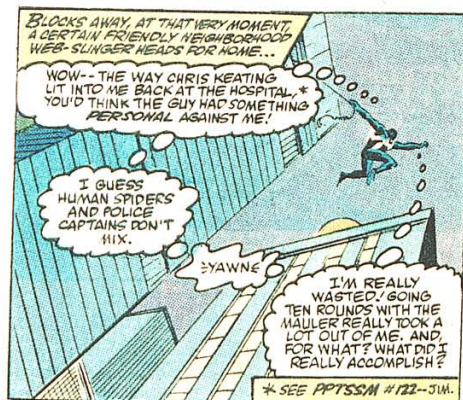
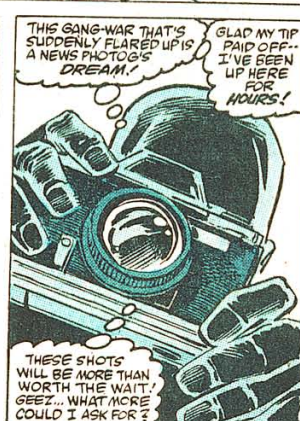
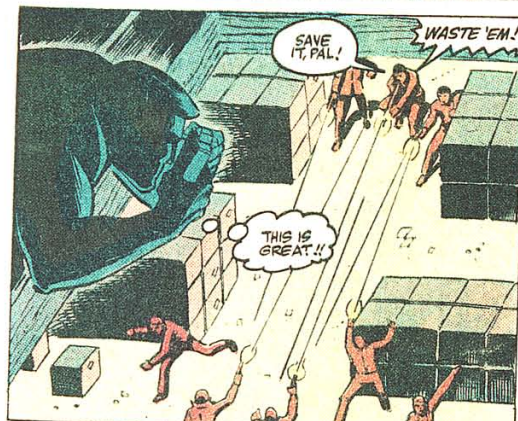
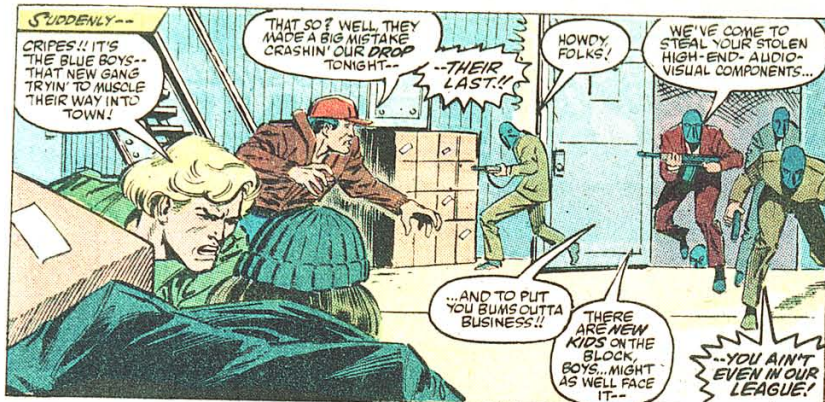
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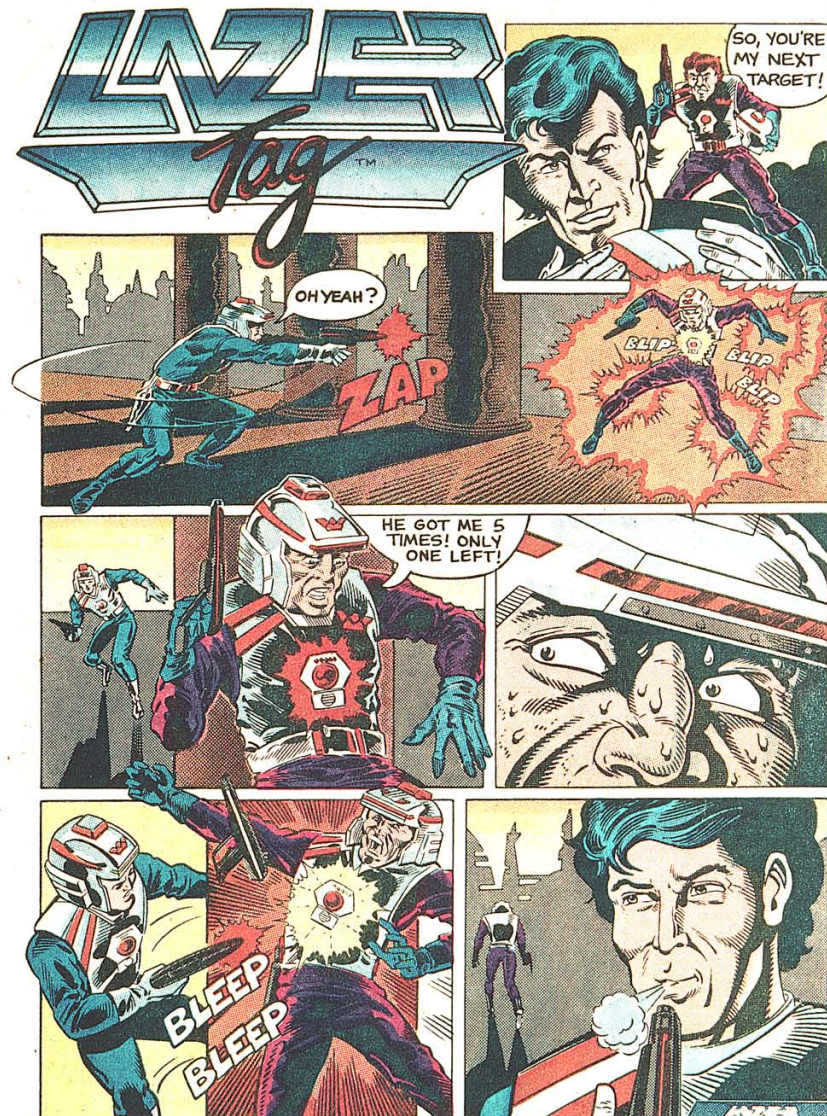
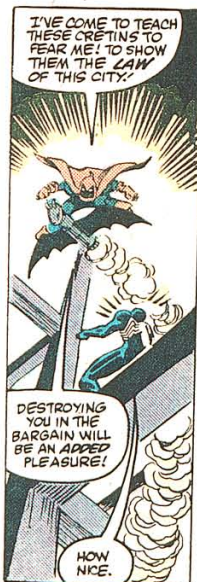
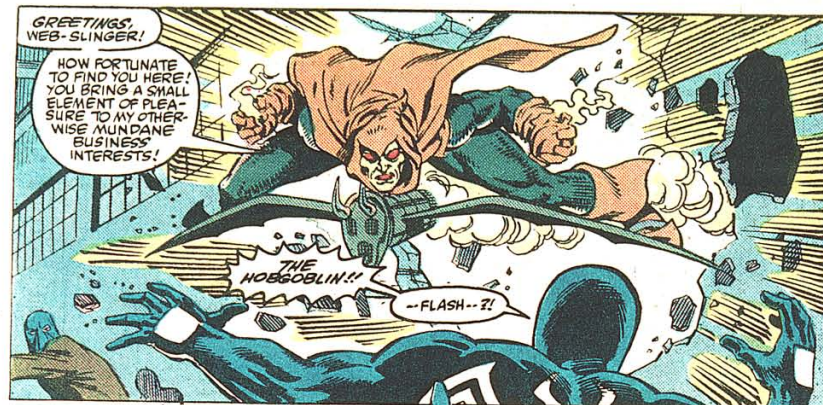
JIM
SALICRUP
EDITOR

JIM
SHOOTER
EDITOR IN CHIEF

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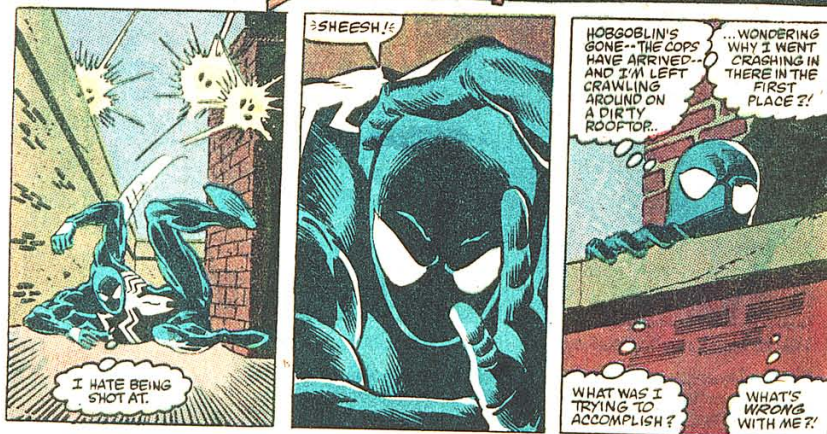
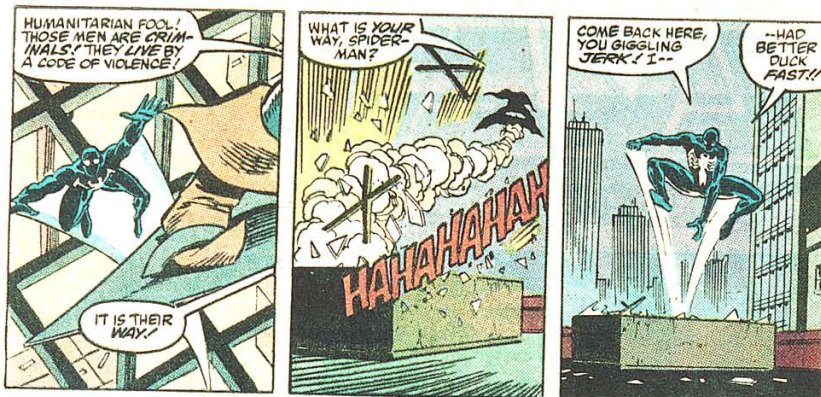


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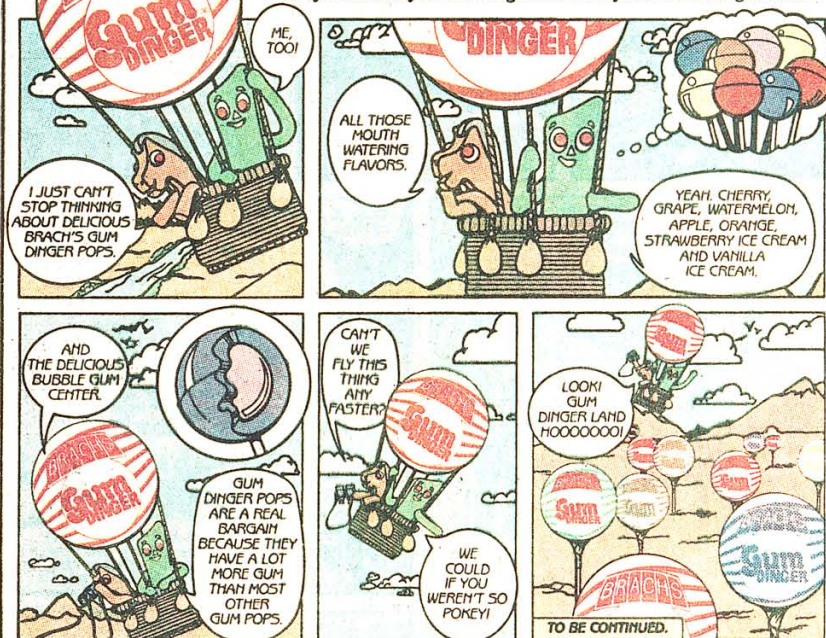
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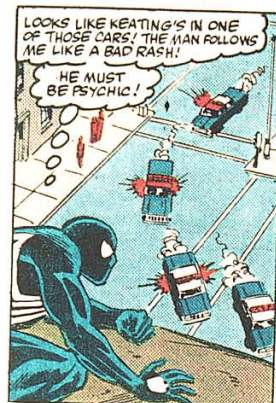
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LOOKS LIKE KEATING'S IN ONE OF THOSE CARS! THE MAN FOLLOWS ME LIKE A BAD RASH!

HE MUST BE PSYCHIC!



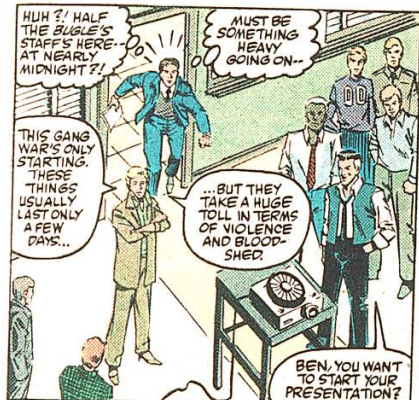
TOO FRAZZLED TO SLEEP NOW, AND, SINCE I DID MANAGE TO SET UP MY AUTOMATIC CAMERA BEFORE THE FIGHT--

...GUESS I'LL DO WHAT COMES NATURALLY...

...GO HOME FOR A QUICK CHANGE OF CLOTHES, AND THEN RACE DOWN TO MY HOME AWAY FROM HOME--



IT'S VERY BAD PEOPLE, AND IT'S GOING TO GET WORSE--



HUH?! HALF THE BUGLE'S STAFF'S HERE AT NEARLY MIDNIGHT?!

MUST BE SOMETHING HEAVY GOING ON--

THIS GANG WAR'S ONLY STARTING. THESE THINGS USUALLY LAST ONLY A FEW DAYS...

...BUT THEY TAKE A HUGE TOLL IN TERMS OF VIOLENCE AND BLOOD-SHED.

BEN, YOU WANT TO START YOUR PRESENTATION?

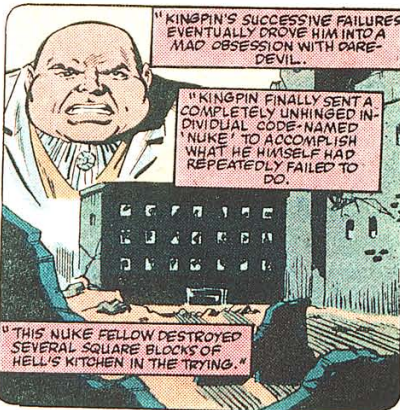


THANKS, JONAH.

COUGH

THIS MESS BEGAN AS A PERSONAL FEUD BETWEEN WILSON FISK--THE ALLEGED KINGPIN OF CRIME, AND THIS MAN--DAREDEVIL, THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!

DETAILS ARE SKETCHY, BUT WE KNOW KINGPIN WAS NEARLY SUCCESSFUL IN HIS ATTEMPTS TO HAVE DAREDEVIL KILLED.



"KINGPIN'S SUCCESSIVE FAILURES EVENTUALLY DROVE HIM INTO A MAD OBSESSION WITH DAREDEVIL--

"KINGPIN FINALLY SENT A COMPLETELY UNKINGED INDIVIDUAL CODE-NAMED 'NUKE' TO ACCOMPLISH WHAT HE HIMSELF HAD REPEATEDLY FAILED TO DO.

"THIS NUKE FELLOW DESTROYED SEVERAL SQUARE BLOCKS OF HELL'S KITCHEN IN THE TRYING."



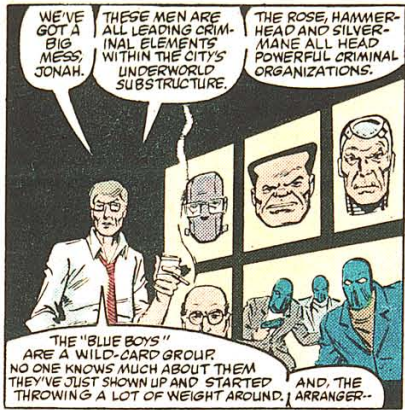
MAN...MY FIGHT WITH FIRELORD DIDN'T CAUSE AS MUCH DESTRUCTION! HOW COULD ANYONE SURVIVE THAT?!

AND ALL THAT HAPPENED WHILE I WAS TRYING TO GET BACK HOME FROM APPALACHIA.*

NOT THAT THERE WOULD'VE BEEN MUCH I COULD'VE DONE ANYWAY. I HEAR EVEN THE AVENGERS WERE IN ON THAT.

SO, WHAT HAVE WE GOT, BEN?

* WEB #18--J.M.

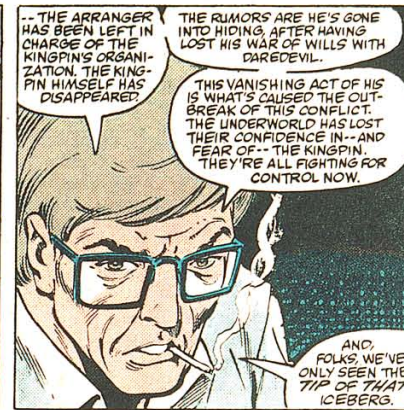


WE'VE GOT A BIG MESS, JONAH.

THESE MEN ARE ALL LEADING CRIMINAL ELEMENTS WITHIN THE CITY'S UNDERWORLD SUBSTRUCTURE

THE ROSE, HAMMER-HEAD AND SILVER-MANE ALL HEAD POWERFUL CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS.

THE "BLUE BOYS" ARE A WILD-CARD GROUP. NO ONE KNOWS MUCH ABOUT THEM THEY'RE JUST SHOWN UP AND STARTED AND THE THROWING A LOT OF WEIGHT AROUND. I ARRANGER--

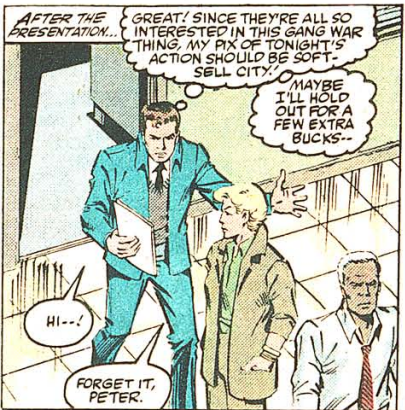


THE ARRANGER HAS BEEN LEFT IN CHARGE OF THE KINGPIN'S ORGANIZATION. THE KINGPIN HIMSELF HAS DISAPPEARED.

THE RUMORS ARE HE'S GONE INTO HIDING, AFTER HAVING LOST HIS WAR OF WILLS WITH DAREDEVIL.

THIS VANISHING ACT OF HIS--WHAT'S CAUSED THE OUT-BREAK OF THIS CONFLICT. THE UNDERWORLD HAS LOST THEIR CONFIDENCE IN--AND FEAR OF--THE KINGPIN. THEY'RE ALL FIGHTING FOR CONTROL NOW.

AND, FOLKS, WE'VE ONLY SEEN THE TIP OF THAT ICEBERG.



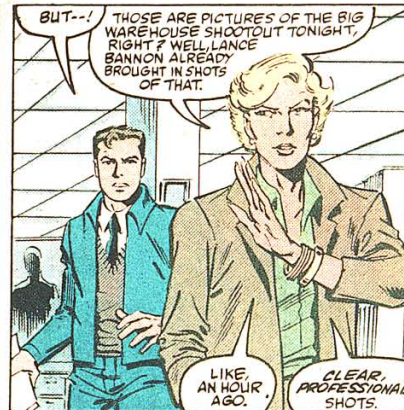
AFTER THE PRESENTATION...

GREAT! SINCE THEY'RE ALL SO INTERESTED IN THIS GANG WAR THING, MY PIX OF TONIGHT'S ACTION SHOULD BE SOFT-SELL CITY.

MAYBE I'LL HOLD OUT FOR A FEW EXTRA BUCKS--

HI--!

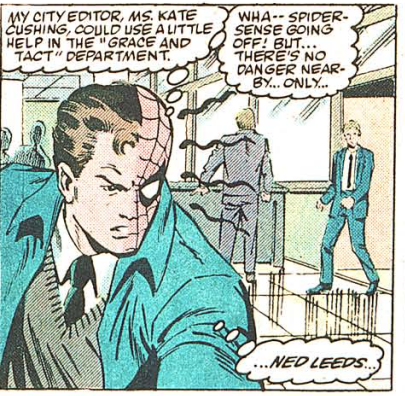
FORGET IT, PETER.



BUT--! THOSE ARE PICTURES OF THE BIG WAREHOUSE SHOOTOUT TONIGHT, RIGHT? WELL, LANCE BANNON ALREADY BROUGHT IN SHOTS OF THAT.

LIKE, AN HOUR AGO.

CLEAR, PROFESSIONAL SHOTS.



MY CITY EDITOR, MS. KATE CUSHING, COULD USE A LITTLE HELP IN THE "GRACE AND TACT" DEPARTMENT.

WHA--SPIDER-SENSE GOING OFF? BUT...THERE'S NO DANGER NEAR-BY...ONLY...

...NED LEEDS...



BETTY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE AT THIS HOUR?!

I COULDN'T SLEEP...I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU AND THIS GANG WAR...

WONDER WHAT IT IS ABOUT THIS GUY THAT MAKES ME SO UNEASY?

THE AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN
IN THE
FREE THE CAP'N MYSTERY

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DAILY BUGLE

CAP'N CRUNCH CAPTURED BY SOGMASTER!

FATE OF CRUNCH POWER UNCERTAIN

SOGGIES MAY RULE!

WHILE SOMEWHERE IN SOGLAND...

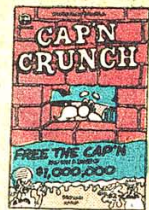
YUK! NO SOLID EVIDENCE HERE... BUT I SUSPECT THE CAP'N'S NEARBY.

MEANWHILE, ON A HILLSLOP... YIKES!

IT'S SPIDER-MAN, SOGMASTER!

HE, HE, HE... HE WON'T BE BUGGING US FOR LONG!

OH NO! WILL SPIDEY FREE THE CAP'N BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE??? HE MIGHT... AND YOU CAN HELP HIM DURING THE "FREE THE CAP'N" SWEEPSTAKES! BOXES OF CAP'N CRUNCH CEREAL HAVE EXCITING GAMES, CLUES AND SECRET PHONE NUMBERS TO TELL YOU HOW. IF YOU DO FREE THE CAP'N, YOU COULD BE ONE OF THE 10,000 WINNERS TO SHARE \$1,000,000.



HE, HE, HE... MY GIANT FLY SPLOTTER WILL FINISH THAT PEST!

HMM... MY SPIDER-SENSE TELLS ME I BETTER FIND CAP'N CRUNCH AND SPIN ON OUTTA HERE FAST... OR BREAKFAST'LL BE DOOMED... AND I'LL BE SOGGED!

No purchase necessary. For full rules and free resistor kit, write to: FREE THE CAP'N RESISTOR KIT, P.O. Box 3079, Spacet, New York 11775. Sweepstakes expires February 15, 1987.

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I'M STILL YOUR WIFE, YOU KNOW.

MY WIFE, BUT CLOSE FRIEND AND PARAMOUR TO FLASH THOMPSON--WHO IS ALSO KNOWN AS--

...THE HOBGOBLIN!

ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT ME, BETTY DARLING--OR ABOUT HIM?!

WELL?!

N... NED... YOU'RE HURTING ME...

YOU'RE LATE.

YOU MISSED THE BRIEFING.

THE IMPORTANT BRIEFING.

LOOK, ROBBIE...

IN MY OFFICE.

AND I JUST HUNG AROUND AND WATCHED THAT WHOLE LITTLE EPISODE. WHAT A CLASS ACT I AM.

OH, PETER, I... I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO!

NED'S BECOME SO STRANGE... SO DISTANT...

THERE'S A HOSTILITY... AN EVIL ABOUT HIM.

SOME-THING I JUST CAN'T EXPLAIN!

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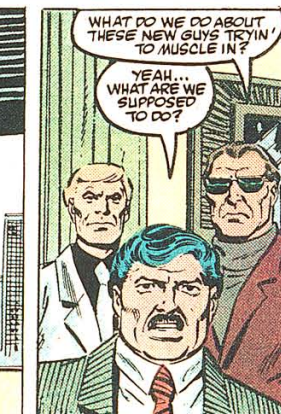
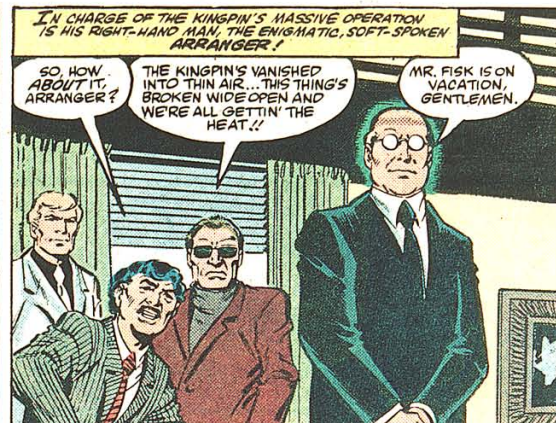
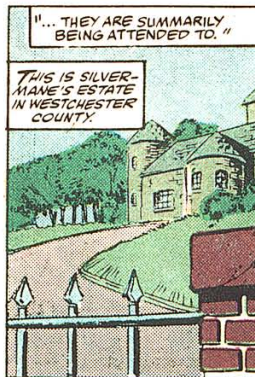


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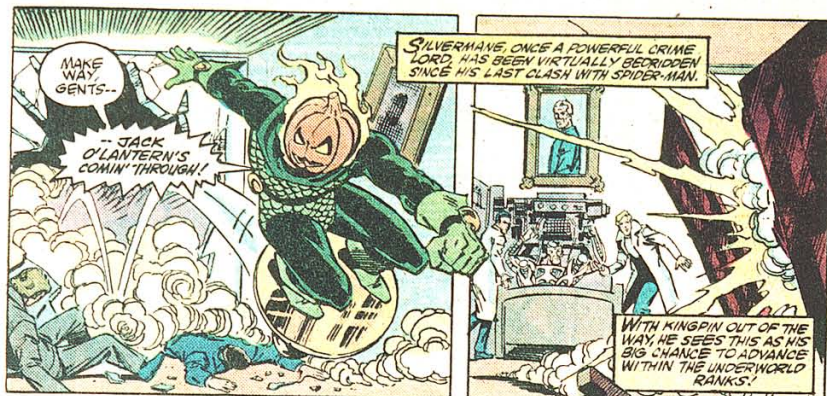
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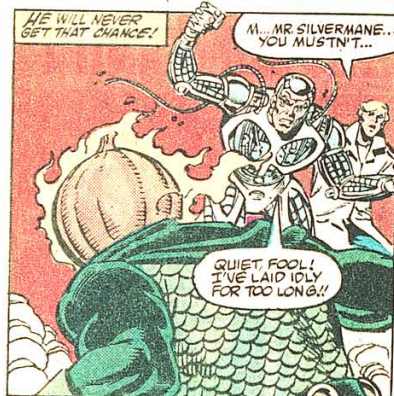


MAKE WAY GENTS...

-- JACK O'LANTERN'S COMIN' THROUGH!

SILVERMANE, ONCE A POWERFUL CRIME LORD, HAS BEEN VIRTUALLY BEDRIDDEN SINCE HIS LAST CLASH WITH SPIDER-MAN.

WITH KINGPIN OUT OF THE WAY, HE SEES THIS AS HIS BIG CHANCE TO ADVANCE WITHIN THE UNDERWORLD RANKS!



HE WILL NEVER GET THAT CHANCE!

M... MR SILVERMANE... YOU MUSTN'T...

QUIET, FOOL! I'VE LAID IDLY FOR TOO LONG!!



MY ROBOT BODY GIVES ME INCREDIBLE STRENGTH! MORE THAN ENOUGH TO DEAL WITH A TWO-BIT HIRER BOON LIKE JACK O'LANTERN!!



I'M INSULTED, SILVERMANE--

--MY RATES ARE A WHOLE LOT HIGHER THAN TWO BITS!



'COURSE, NOW THE POINT IS MOOT.



WHADDAYA KNOW, SILVERMANE-- NOW YOU AIN'T GOT NO BODY!

YOU'RE LUCKY TO STILL BE ALIVE!

STAY OUT OF GANG BUSINESS, OR I'LL BE BACK! AND, BY THE WAY...

-- THE ARRANGER SAYS "HI!"



MEANWHILE, IN FOREST HILLS, QUEENS...

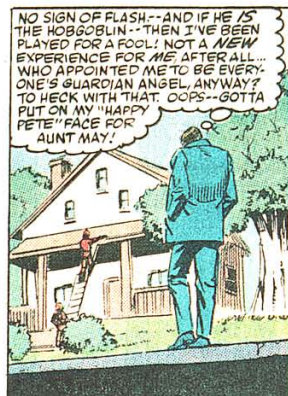
GOTTA STEER CLEAR OF THIS GANG WAR BUSINESS. IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH ME ANYWAY.

LIKE THE HOBGOBLIN SAID, IT'S THE WAY THEY LIVE

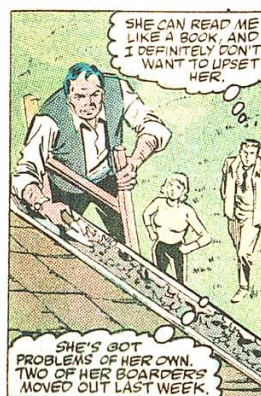


AND "THEY" CAN HAVE IT. LET 'EM SHOOT EACH OTHER IF THAT'S WHAT THEY WANT.

I DON'T CARE ANYMORE.

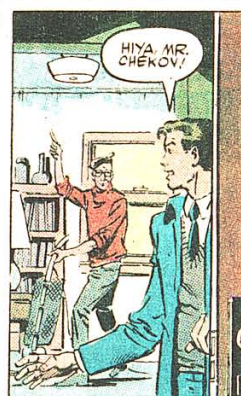


NO SIGN OF FLASH-- AND IF HE IS THE HOBGOBLIN-- THEN I'VE BEEN PLAYED FOR A FOOL! NOT A NEW EXPERIENCE FOR ME AFTER ALL... WHO APPOINTED ME TO BE EVERYONE'S GUARDIAN ANGEL, ANYWAY? TO HECK WITH THAT. COOPS-- GOTTA PUT ON MY WARRIOR PETER-- FACE FOR AUNT MAY!



SHE CAN READ ME LIKE A BOOK, AND I DEFINITELY DON'T WANT TO UPSET HER.

SHE'S GOT PROBLEMS OF HER OWN. TWO OF HER BOARDERS MOVED OUT LAST WEEK.



HIYA, MR. CHEKOV!



UPSTAIRS...

PETER! WHY-- I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TODAY--

NEITHER DID I! I MEAN, I DECIDED TO TAKE A LITTLE STROLL AROUND CHELSEA AND, GEE, GUESS I GOT A BIT CARRIED AWAY!



CROSSING THE EAST RIVER WASN'T EASY!

WHAT'S UP?

WE'RE JUST SPRUCCING THE HOUSE UP A BIT. PETER, WE NEED TWO MORE BOARDERS TO TAKE SOPHIE AND MARTHA'S ROOM.

WITHOUT THEIR INCOME, IT'S EVEN TOUGHER TO MAKE ENDS MEET.

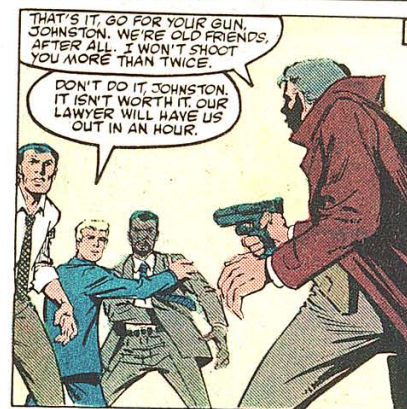
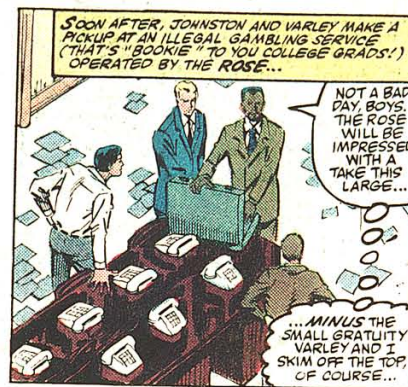
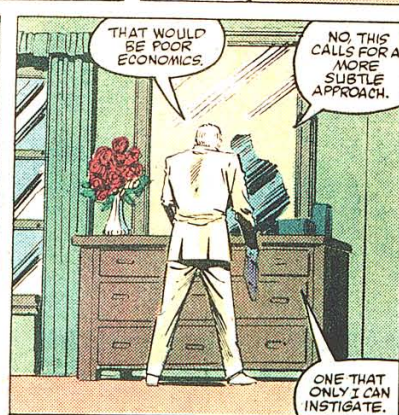
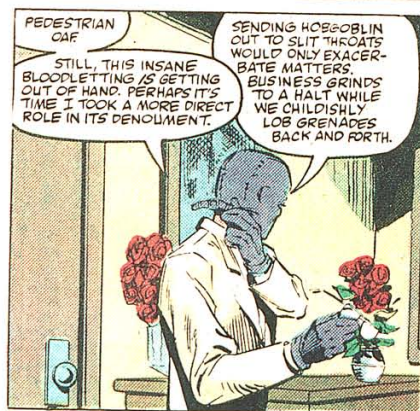


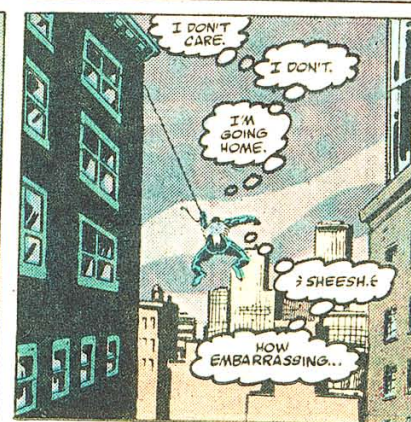
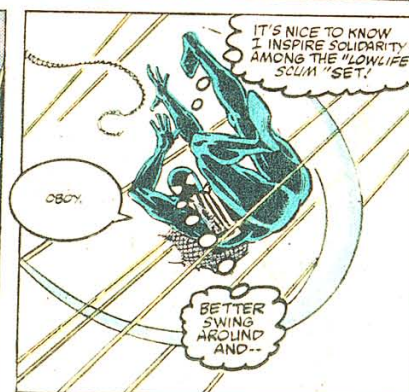
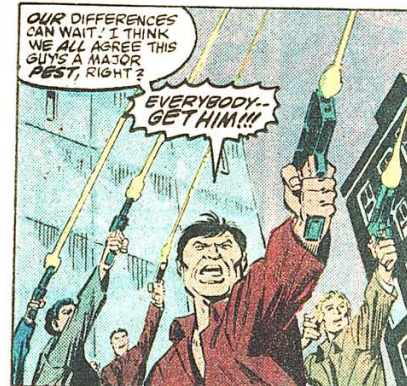
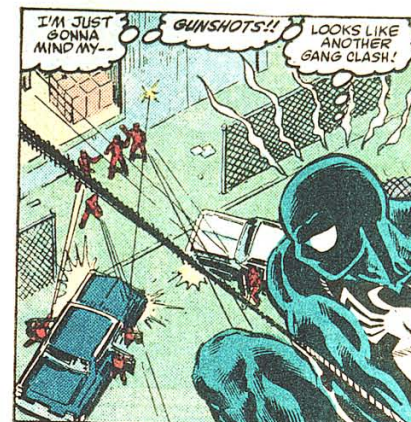
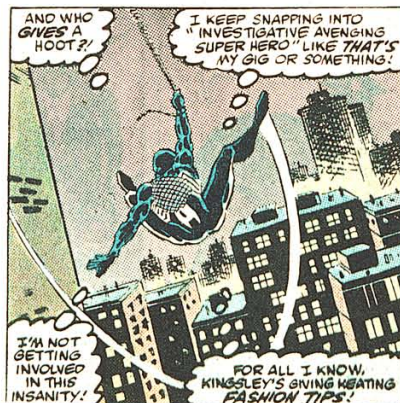
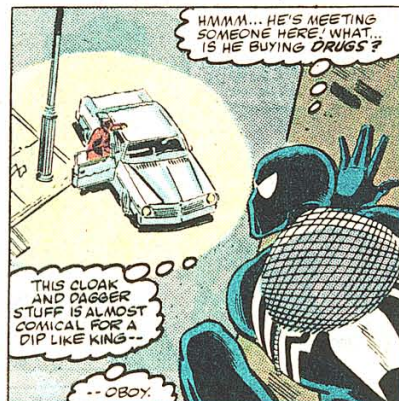
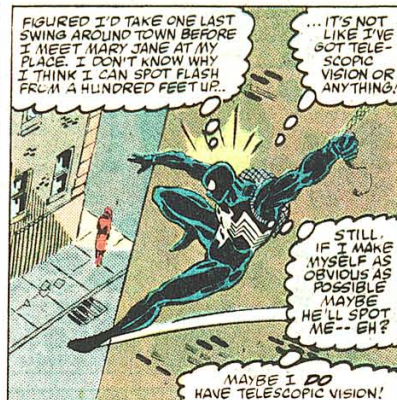
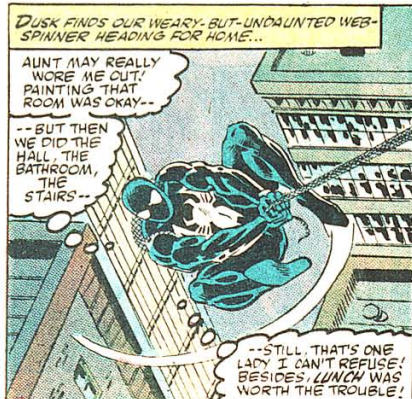
IF YOU REALLY WANT TO ATTRACT NEW PEOPLE, YOU SHOULD HANG A LARGER-THAN-LIFE PICTURE OF YOURSELF OUTSIDE.

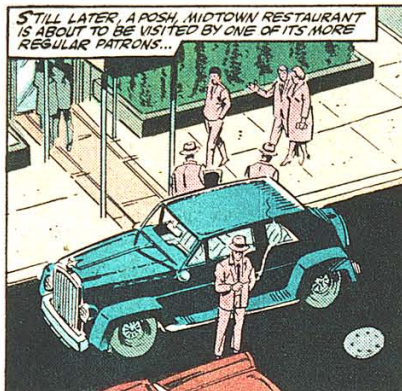
YOU'D PACK 'EM IN IN DROVES!

OH PETER!

HERE-- HUSH-UP AND PAINT!







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SKY'S THE LIMIT, DOLLS!



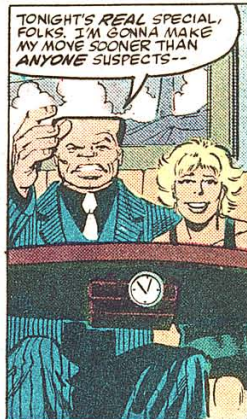
-- BUT OF COURSE, YOUR USUAL TABLE AWAITS YOU, M'SIEUR SMITH.

THANKS, FRENCHY.

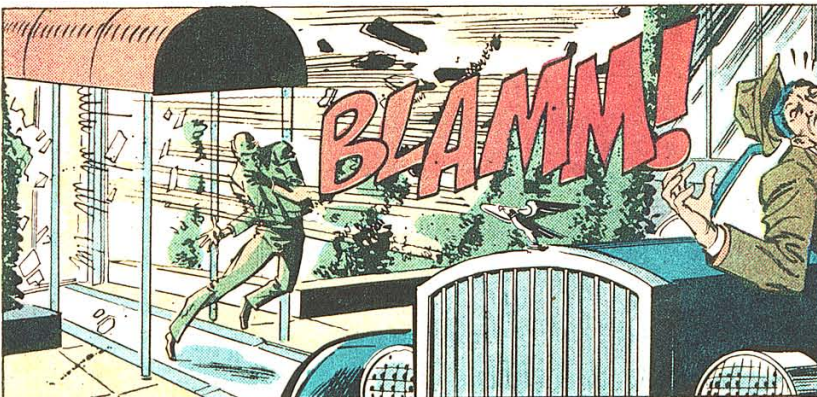


BREAK OPEN THE BUBBLY, JACQUES! AND BRING THE GOOD STUFF!

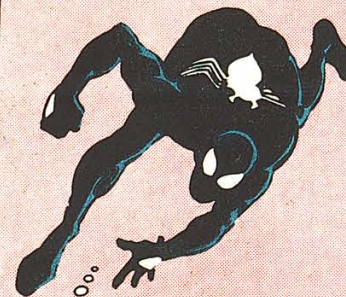
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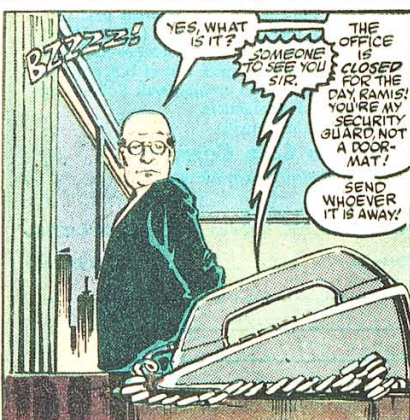
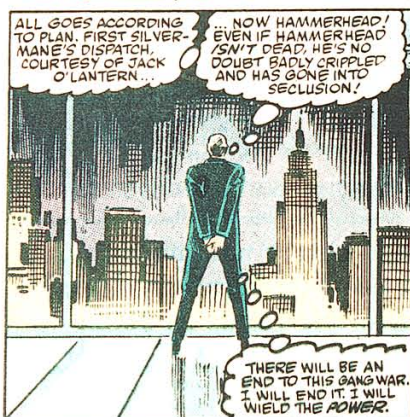
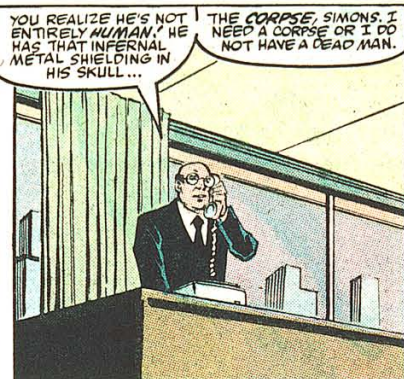
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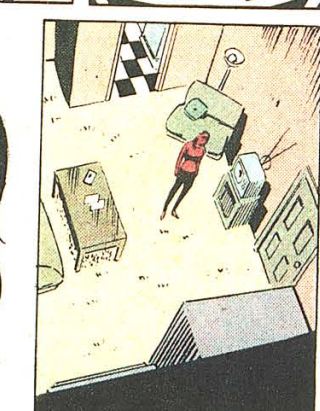
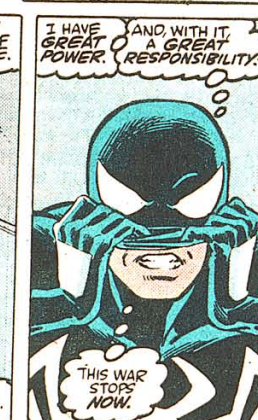
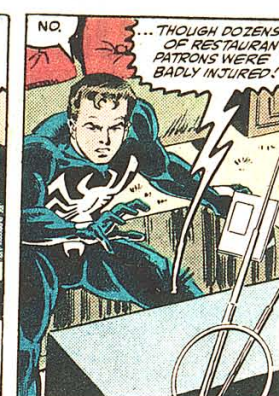
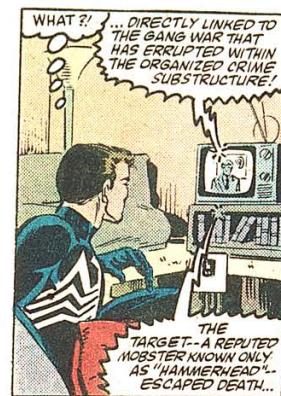
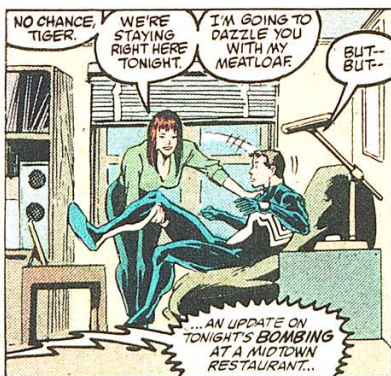
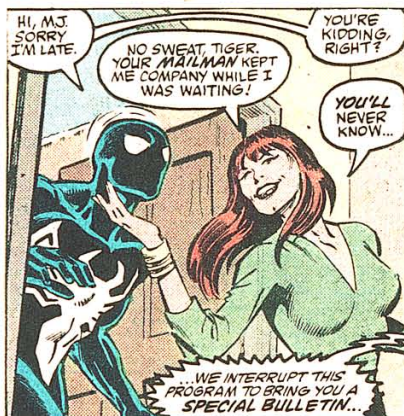
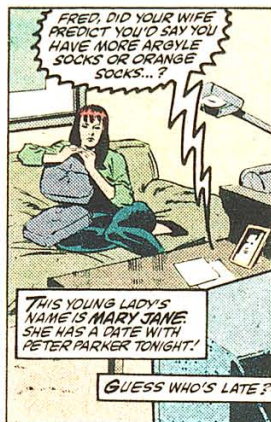
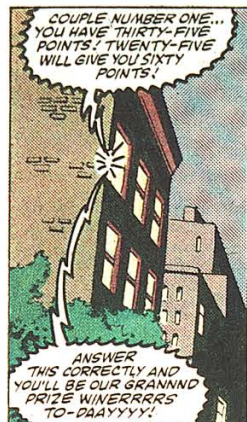
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HOUSTON: OCTOBER 25-26, Whitehall Hotel, 1700 Smith Street. With ARTHUR ADAMS (New Mutants), MIKE ZECK (Punisher, Cap), MARK LENARD (Star Trek's Sarek), KERRY GAMILL (Teen Titans).

ANAHEIM: NOVEMBER 1-2, Sheraton Anaheim, 1015 West Ball Road. With AL MILGROM (Spider-Man), BOB WIACEK (X-Factor), ARCHIE GOODWIN (Epic), JIMMY DOOHAN (Trek's Scotty) & JONATHAN FRID (Dark Shadows star).

HONOLULU, HAWAII: NOVEMBER 8-9, Hawaii Regent Hotel, 2552 Kalakawa Avenue. With CHRIS CLAREMONT (X-Men), CARL MACEK (Robotech), WALTER KOENIG (Trek).

PHILADELPHIA: NOVEMBER 15-16, Holiday Inn City Center, 1800 Market Street. With CARL POTTS (Strikeforce), ROD WHIGHAM, BOB WIACEK.

SAN FRANCISCO: NOVEMBER 22-23, Sheraton Palace Hotel, 639 Market Street. With MARV WOLFMAN (Teen Titans), ARCHIE GOODWIN (Epic).

MANHATTAN: NOVEMBER 28-30, Omni Park Central Hotel, 56th and 7th Avenue. "The biggest convention of the year!" With BARRY WINDSOR-SMITH, MIKE ZECK, CHRIS CLAREMONT, BOB WIACEK, KEITH GIFFEN, CARL POTTS, EASTMAN & LAIRD, & more!

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BULLPEN BULLETINS

Look Ma, National TV!

Stan Lee and I appeared on ABC's 20/20 a few weeks ago, talking about Marvel's twenty-fifth anniversary. Thanks to producer Joe Pfefferling, interviewer Bob Brown, and the whole 20/20 team, the segment was a magnificent tribute to Marvel. However...

While we were very pleased with everything that was broadcast, we were very disappointed about what was left out—specifically every single mention we made of Jack Kirby, Steve Ditko and the other great artists who co-created with Stan many of Marvel's greatest characters. We believe in giving credit where credit is due—and we did—but to no avail.

You don't have much control in interview situations like that. First of all, you discuss primarily what the interviewer wants, and second, they typically film sev-

eral hours of conversation which they edit down into a few minutes. You have no say over what makes it onto the air and what doesn't.

So, anyway, though we were basically delighted to see Marvel's twenty-fifth getting such great major media coverage, we wish it had come out a little differently. We wanted you to know.

Next Month...

Some further thoughts on the media, responsibility, morality, and the kinds of things you can learn from reading comics.

Strive on.

Stan Lee

Jim Shooter
Editor in Chief

CHECKLIST

- ☐ CLOAK AND DAGGER #10—Beware Doctor Doom!
- ☐ DAREDEVIL #238—It's a Mutant Massacre tale!
- ☐ NEW MUTANTS #47
- ☐ STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI #2—Visit "the Garden," where your powers will save you or kill you!
- ☐ TRANSFORMERS: THE MOVIE (Limited Series) #2
- ☐ WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #22
- ☐ WEST COAST AVENGERS #15—The return of Helicat and Son of Satan!
- ☐ CONAN THE KING #38
- ☐ X-MEN ANNUAL #10—The X-Men are getting younger! CHRIS CLAREMONT wrote it! ART ADAMS drew it!
- ☐ ALPHA FLIGHT #42
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #284—Gang War!
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #325
- ☐ G.I. JOE AND TRANSFORMERS (Limited Series) #1—It's the story that had to be told, because you demanded it! See the clash of the decade! Experience war on an awesome scale! Buy all four issues for total excitement! Written by MICHAEL HIGGINS! Drawn by HERB TRIMPE! Don't miss it!
- ☐ LABYRINTH (Limited Series) #3
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR INDEX #12—Everything you need to know about what happened in issues #199-214!
- ☐ SPIDER-MAN DIGEST #1—Reprinting Amazing Spider-Man #51-53, by STAN LEE and JOHN ROMITA, Sr.
- ☐ AVENGERS #275—Ant Man and the Wasp—together!
- ☐ CONAN THE BARBARIAN #190
- ☐ G.I. JOE #55
- ☐ HOWARD THE DUCK (Limited Series) #2
- ☐ INCREDIBLE HULK #195
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #195—Reprinting Marvel Team-Up #61 by CHRIS CLAREMONT and JOHN BYRNE.
- ☐ THE NAM #12—You're a grunt in the sweltering jungles of Vietnam, and this is the "Dustoff!" Written by Vietnam vet DOUG MURRAY, with art by MICHAEL GOLDEN.
- ☐ X-MEN #213—The Mutant Massacre ends here!
- ☐ MARVEL SAGA #14—The origins of Quicksilver and the Scarlet Witch, and the Green Goblin! Also, Spidey battles the Hulk!
- ☐ TRANSFORMERS UNIVERSE (Limited Series) #2
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR #288
- ☐ IRON MAN #214—Featuring Spider-Woman!

- ☐ PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #122—With the Hobgoblin and Dakota North!
- ☐ THOR #375—Hela's breaking loose!
- ☐ TRANSFORMERS #24
- ☐ X-FACTOR #112—The Angel makes his toughest choice!
- ☐ CLASSIC X-MEN #5—Reprinting X-Men #97, with new material by CHRIS CLAREMONT, DAVE COCKRUM and JOHN BOLTON.
- ☐ G.I. JOE ORDER OF BATTLE (Limited Series) #3
- ☐ THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE #14—Spotlighting everyone from Ursula Major to X-Factor!
- ☐ TRANSFORMERS DIGEST #1—Thrill to their first two adventures, plus some surprise extras!

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ MARVEL AGE #46—The place to go for more info about everything you see here! Also, a look at the Marvel Bullpen!
- ☐ MARVEL FANFARE #30—Presenting a full-length Moon Knight adventure by ANN NOCENTI and BRENT ANDERSON.
- ☐ SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #131
- ☐ SAVAGE TALES #8
- ☐ EPIC COMICS
- ☐ SWORDS OF THE SWASHBUCKLERS #10
- ☐ GROO THE WANDERER #23
- ☐ BOZZ CHRONICLES #6—Maybe there's a way to phone home on the Dark Continent!
- ☐ ELEKTRA: ASSASSIN (Limited Series) #4—A thriller about love and death written by FRANK MILLER and illustrated by BILL SIENKIEWICZ.
- ☐ ELQUEST #18
- ☐ STEELGRIP STARKEY (Limited Series) #5—It's an around-the-world construction race! See it and believe it!

STAR COMICS

- ☐ DEFENDERS OF THE EARTH #1—They're Flash Gordon, the Phantom and Mandrake the Magician! They're battling the dreaded Ming the Merciless! Written by STAN SAEL! Art by ALEX SAEL!
- ☐ MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE #5—Can even Extender save He-Man from Monstroid?
- ☐ PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #115—Special Halloween issue!
- ☐ CHUCK NORRIS AND THE KARATE KOMMANDOS #1—The Cult of the Claw better

watch out! Chuck Norris has joined the Star Comics line-up, and would-be world conquerors are in for a fight! This action-packed series is brought to you by JOE DUFFY (writer) and STEVE DITKO (artist)!

☐ EWOKS #11—Kneesaa shrinks!

☐ MUPPET BEARIES #11—Super heroes and Vikings!

☐ CARE BEARS #8

☐ INHUMANOID #1—They're the most amazing fighting group you've ever seen! And now straight from their smash TV series, the Inhumanoids go to even greater heights of adventure in their own Star Comic! Written by JIM SALICRUP! Drawn by JAMES FRY and JOE DELBEATO!

NEW UNIVERSE

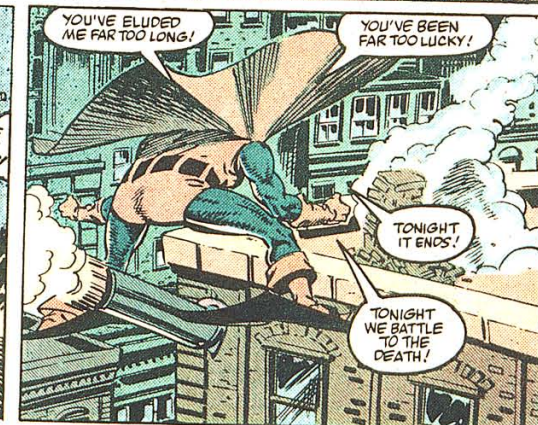
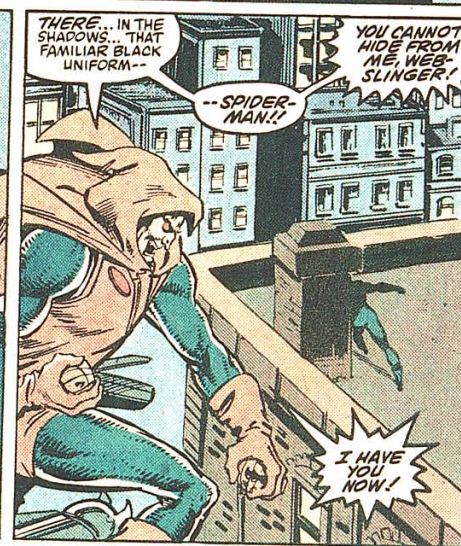
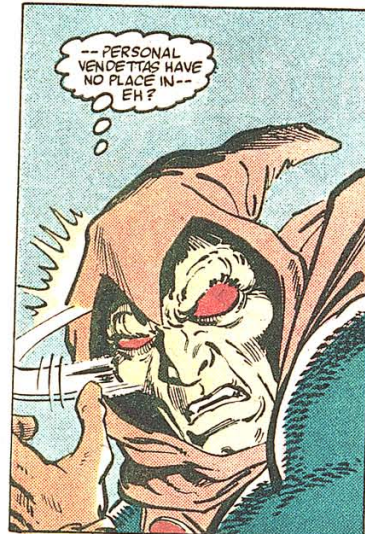
- ☐ NIGHT MASK #3—Teddy stands alone against the Gnome, while Night Mask attempts to resist the allure of Mistress Twilight!
- ☐ KICKERS, INC. #3—Ghosts have been unleashed on a quiet college campus! Who ya gonna call? The Kickers!
- ☐ MARK HAZZARD: MERC #3—Arab terrorists have descended upon Philadelphia! Only one man can stand against them—MERC!
- ☐ D.P.7 #3—The Paranormals think the police might help them escape from the Clinic. They're wrong!
- ☐ JUSTICE #3—It's a showdown with Conquest and the Yakuza assassin, Tatool!
- ☐ PSI FORCE #3—The Psi Force members go back to high school and try to lead normal lives, only to meet their greatest enemy! SPIRITFIRE AND THE TROUBLESHOOTERS #4—Kroze is murdered! Jenny is arrested! And then it gets worse!
- ☐ STAR BRAND #4—They're paranormals, they're deadly and they're after Star Brand! Meet hysteria, Tintinn and Scrunchi! They'll kill you!

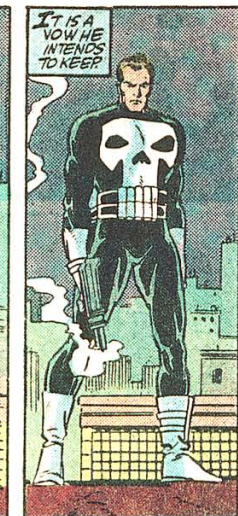
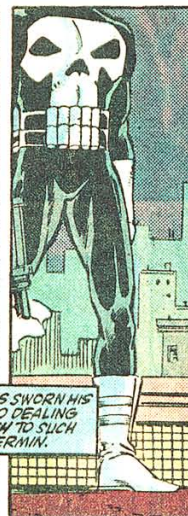
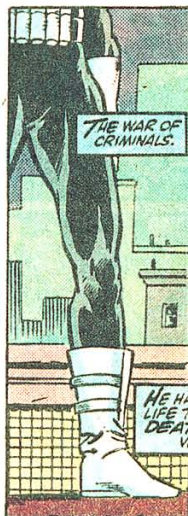
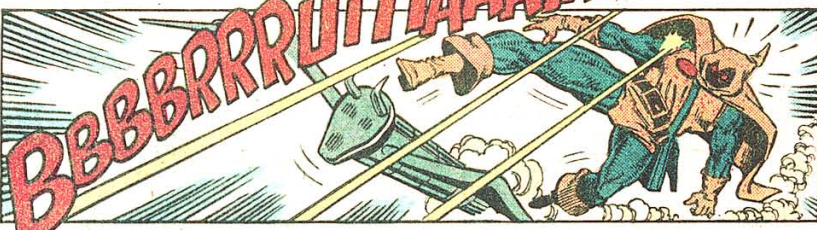
GRAPHIC NOVEL

- ☐ DRACULA: A SYMPHONY IN MOONLIGHT AND NIGHTMARES—The Lord of Darkness has finally been released, just in time for Halloween! Be prepared to be scared as you read this truly stunning book! Written and painted by JOHN JAY MUTH!

EXTRA!

- ☐ MARVEL UNIVERSE TRADE PAPERBACK #1—That's right, the Deluxe Edition of the Official Handbook of the Marvel Universe is being collected into a classy series for your library! Each volume features 128 pages of info and pics of your favorite Marvel characters! It's great!





NEXT: "...ALONG CAME A PUNISHER!"

THE SPIDER'S WEB

MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

JIM SALICRUP
EDITOR
ADAM BLAUSTEIN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Spider Gang,

After many long months of waiting, you finally brought Silver Sable back to the pages of Spidey in issue #279. I think it was one of the best moves you have made in a long time. The Kingpin has become more of a character in Daredevil than in Spider-Man. I'm glad you guys finally found another powerful "business executive" who could add a little spice and danger to the life of everybody's favorite webslinger.

What I want to know is how long do I have to wait before I see Silver Sable again? Are you guys only going to show her once in a while or will she become a regular character? Most importantly, when will you reveal her origin and the details of Silver Sable International's origin and make-up? Also, if the Kingpin can have super-powered assistants, why can't Silver Sable?

Speaking as a very loyal fan of Spidey's for many years, I think Silver Sable could even replace the Kingpin as the power entity Spider-Man goes to for the latest info. Let's see a lot more of Silver Sable!

Dave Kinder
12862 Brittany Woods Drive
Santa Ana, CA 92705

Replace the Kingpin, Dave? (Geez, you must be psychic!) That's a pretty tall order, even for as capable and connected a lady as Silver, considering the tough competition. As for just how capable and connected she is, all will be revealed in issues to come. And we guarantee you it will be surprising, startling, and definitely worth waiting for.

Dear Spider's Web,

I really liked issue #279 with Rick Leonardi's art and Tom DeFalco's writing. The story was great. I loved the Missing In Action bit. But I have one question—what happened to the criminal who shot Uncle Ben down in issue 1?

Before I go, I hope you print this letter because I know who the Hobgoblin is—Ned Leeds!

Pat Finnerty
5520 Hamilton Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82009

The burglar died way back in #200, Pat. As for your guess, what can we say? It must be pretty obvious by now Hobgoblin is Ned Leeds. Who else could he be? Whew—glad that's settled!

To Whom it May Concern,

First I want to commend you on AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #279. It was great! The Silver Sable is beautiful. You know, she reminds me of the Black Widow. Speaking of Black Widow, where is she these days? Well, I thought I would just slap you on the back for that beautiful issue and look forward to seeing more of Silver Sable (and a little more of Spidey, guys). Oh, before I go, I just want to weep with all the other guys that don't hate Spidey's new costume but have grown accustomed to his old one.

Eric Small
50 Clarkson Avenue
(The Garden Spot of the World)
Brooklyn, NY

The Black Widow has returned (has she ever!) to the pages of Daredevil, Eric, in stories crafted by Ann "Longshot" Nocenti and Louis "Newcomer" Williams. Check 'em out, Scout!

Hi Guys and Gals,

Just finished reading #279 and just had to write my first letter.

When I saw this issue in my comic store I said "I'd die first before buying an issue without my favorite Webhead in it." Well, being of sound mind and body I do bequeath to you all my thanks and high regard for a fine fine issue (minus the Webhead). And I'll buy it now with or without!

Keep up the fine work. Until Peter comes out of the mountain naked as a blue jay make mine Marvel!!

D.R. Smith
Detroit, MI

Dear Tom and Spidey-Crow,

I have just finished reading the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #279 and what a story. It was great to see Jack O'Lantern and Silver Sable go at it. Also the front cover was one of the best you have ever done.

My guess at the Hobgoblin's identity is Lance Bannon, since it is quite obvious that Flash Thompson is not the Hobgoblin. So until Mary Jane gets a mohawk Make Mine Marvel.

Paul Swaidn
70 Sierra Way
West Yarmouth, MA 02673

Of course! Lance Bannon! How could we have been so foolish as to believe Hobgoblin was Ned Leeds? What possessed us, what could

We have been thinking? Our thanks to you, Paul, for setting us (and Pat Finnerty) straight on this.

Dear Web-Heads,

You didn't!

You wouldn't!

You couldn't!

Of course not, you didn't destroy Spidey's red costume, did you?

Paul W. Greer
470 Olivet Drive
Elyria, OH 44035

To answer your question in reverse order, Paul: We could, we would, we did!

Dear Arachnids,

You guys are really outdoing yourselves! I mean, the suspense created by issue #279 has me squirming in my seat! Keep up the drama.

Something that's been on my mind lately is the rumor that Spidey will be battling Wolverine. Is this really going to happen? I'll have a nervous break-down! Wolverine is one of my favorites but nothing tops the man with the webs!! If you guys really are going to have them fight, please have some sort of explanation for it. I would hate to go through life thinking that Spidey and Wolverine don't get along.

Elio DiPaolantonio
11 Wincott Jr. Street 607
Toronto, ON M9R 2R9

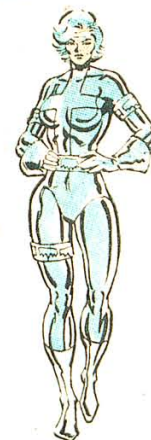
At the risk of endangering your mental health further, Elio, it's true! Spidey and Wolverine battle separately and together in "Spider-Man vs. Wolverine," a 64-page extravaganza due out just in time for Halloween. (What a treat!) Not only will you witness Spidey up to his neck in spines in Germany, and Wolverine in adamantium action, but you'll be stunned by an utterly shocking development... so shocking we dare not even hint at it! Do not miss it!

Dear Webheads,

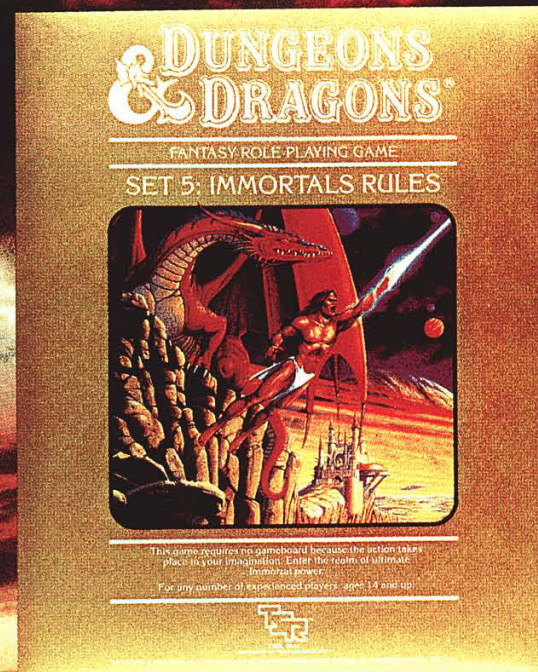
Heh heh heh. I happened to put the covers of WEB #18, PETER PARKER #117 and SPIDER-MAN #279 on the left, middle and right respectively, and what did I come up with? You got it! A full sized picture! Yop. Well, I have nothing else to say except that Captain Keating is obviously the Hobgoblin.

Jeff Frtts
347 Weston Road
Wellesley, MA 02181

Captain Keating! That's it then, let's pack it in. We've been blind, Jeff, blind, but you've shown us the light. At least we all agree on who the Hobgoblin is. He's Ned... uh, Lance... No, wait, uh, Keating. Or maybe... nah. Not her!



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